

BRIDGNORTH  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.  
FOR THE YEAR 1945.

L. E. DICKSON, M. D.

THE  
OFFICE OF THE  
SECRETARY OF THE  
NAVY

FOURTH

CHAPTER

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BRIDGNORTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting the ANNUAL REPORT on the Health of the Rural District for the year ended 31st December 1945.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

Medical Officer of Health:	L.E. Dickson. M.D. (part time).
Sanitary and Food Inspector:	M.C. Younger. M.R.S.I.

Sec.A. STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	101,040
Registrar General's estimate of resident population mid 1945	...	...	...	...	12,430
Number of inhabited houses at end of 1945 according to the Rate Book	...	...	...	...	3,460
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	£57,008
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	£242.9.1

EXTRACTS FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

<u>Live Births.</u>	Total.	M.	F.	)	Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.	
Legitimate.	199	105	94	)		
Illegitimate.	16	10	6	)		17.29
<u>Still Births.</u>				)	Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	
Legitimate.	6	1	5	)		
Illegitimate.	2	2	-	)		35.8
<u>Deaths.</u>	145	74	71	)	Death rate per 1,000 estimated average population	11.6
<u>Deaths from Puerperal Causes.</u>						
Puerperal Sepsis			Nil	)	Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	
Other Puerperal Causes			1	)		4.4
<u>Deaths of infants under one year of age.</u>	Total.	M.	F.			
Legitimate.	3	2	1			
Illegitimate.	0	0	0			
<u>Death Rates.</u>						
All infants per 1,000 live births						13.9
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births						15.0
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births						Nil.
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)						1
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)						31

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Public Health Officers - see above.

There has been no change in the following:-

- |                            |                            |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| (a) Laboratory facilities. | (b) Ambulance facilities.  |
| (c) Nursing in the home.   | (d) Treatment Centres etc. |
| (e) Hospitals.             |                            |



## Sec.C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

A report by your Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Younger, is appended.

Water Supplies. Major A.H.S. Waters of Birmingham was commissioned by the Council to survey and make a report on the water supplies of the whole Rural District. In December he submitted a very extensive and detailed report giving the present position and proposals for an adequate supply of water for the whole area. In the main it is proposed that the bulk of the water supplies would be obtained from sources of supply outside the Rural District and where possible augmented by supplies from sources within the district.

The estimated total cost of this scheme at prices then ruling was £237,400 for works and contingencies only.

Alveley. Negotiations with the owner of the spring from which water is drawn eventually resulted in an agreement for the acquisition of this water supply.

Highley. The Highley Mining Co. continued to supply water as heretofore and there was no recurrence of the acute shortage experienced in the previous year. The Company has since given notice that it will cease to supply water to the public and terms have been arranged for the taking over of this undertaking by the Rural District Council together with the service of sewage disposal and scavenging previously undertaken by the Mining Company. This has since been the subject of a Public Inquiry by an inspector of the Ministry of Health, whose report is not yet published.

Weston. A supply of water has been obtained for the Weston Council houses from an adjacent farm. Prof. W.S. Bolton, in August 1945, surveyed this district and the Netchwood district, and submitted a report with suggestions for obtaining water supplies to Weston cottages and other properties in the neighbourhood.

## Sec.D. HOUSING.

There was no marked activity in the erection of new dwellings during the year owing to war-time difficulties and restrictions. Nevertheless a total of 13 new dwellings were provided, of these, 8 were erected under sec. 3(1) of the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1938, the remaining 5 being accounted for by private enterprise.

Details of the year's progress is as follows:-

<u>Parish.</u>	<u>Number of houses erected.</u>
Chetton.	4
Claverley.	1
Ditton Priors.	4
Morville.	1
Neanton.	2
Worfield.	1





### Post-War Housing.

Schemes for a first year's programme of building were approved for the following parishes:-

Alveley, Claverley, Worfield, Morville, Highley, Neen Savage and Ditton Priors.

### Sec.E. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Slaughtering of animals continued to be carried out at Wolverhampton and meat distributed through Bridgnorth under reasonably satisfactory conditions. Details of food condemned as unfit for human consumption are again given in Mr. Younger's report:

Adulteration. No action was taken in this matter.

### Sec.F. PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS & OTHER DISEASES.

#### Notifiable Diseases during the year 1945.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.		Cases admitted to Hospital.		Total Deaths.
	Civ.	Non-Civ.	Civ.	Non-Civ.	
Scarlet Fever.	13	-	9	-	-
Diphtheria	-	1	-	1	-
Pneumonia	5	2	1	2	5
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1	1	1	1	1
Measles	153	1	-	1	-
Erysipelas	1	1	-	1	-
Whooping Cough	36	-	-	-	1
Malaria	-	13	-	13	-
Enteric Fever	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	-	1	-
Opthalmia Neonatorum	1	-	-	-	-
acute Poliomyelitis	4	-	3	-	1
Dysentery	-	6	-	6	-

There were epidemics of Measles in Claverley district in March and April, Highley in April, May and June and in Worfield School in April.

There were also outbreaks of Whooping Cough at intervals throughout the year.

Four cases of Infantile Paralysis of a severe type occurred in the year with one death.

One case of Diphtheria (non-civilian) was notified in this year.

#### Diphtheria Prophylaxis.

The numbers of children who are known to have completed a full course of immunisation during the year are:-

Age at date of final injection.		
0-4 yrs.	5-14 yrs.	Total under 15.

200

26

226





The number of children who are known to have completed a full course of immunisation by December 31st, 1945 are:-

Under 1.	Age at 31st December 1945.						Uncertain btwn.5-14.	Total under 15.
	1.	2.	3.	4.	5-9.	10-14.		
1	78	138	110	129	683	741	3	1,883.

Estimated child population at end 1945.		
0 - 4 years.	5 - 14 years.	Total.
1,070	2,010	3,080.

There were no notifications or deaths of children under 15 years of age in this year.

Scabies. There was again a decline in the prevalence of this complaint.

#### TUBERCULOSIS.

New cases and Mortality during the year 1945.

Age Periods.	New Cases.								Deaths.							
	Respiratory.				Non-Resp.				Respiratory.				Non. Resp.			
	Civ.		Non-C.		Civ.		Non-C.		Civ.		Non-C.		Civ.		Non-C.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
5	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	-	-	1	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
25	1	-	4	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
65 & over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals:	2	-	6	1	1	2	2	-	5	2	-	-	-	2	1	-

I have the honour to be, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

L. E. DICKSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

22nd January 1947.

• *Chrysomelidae* 12

1890

• *Chlorophyll a* (Chl *a*)

[illegible]

BRIDGNORTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DEC.  
1945.

COMPLAINTS.

Seventy-eight were received during the year of various natures and conditions, and all were inspected and the necessary action to have the cause of complaint remedied.

WATER SUPPLIES.

During the year, repairs have been carried out to six public wells and one private well so as to keep up the normal supply and prevent contamination.

WATER ANALYSIS.

During the year, seven samples of water have been taken, three chemicals and four bacteriologicals. Two bacteriological were satisfactory and two not satisfactory. The three chemicals were satisfactory.

DISINFECTION.

The number of places disinfected during the year after being occupied by patients suffering from infectious disease was 28.

FOOD INSPECTION.

The following articles of foodstuffs were inspected during the year and found unfit for human consumption:-

103 lbs. Oranges.	2 tins Tomatoes.
11½ lbs. Lemons.	2 tins Pork Luncheon Meat.
3 tins Baked Beans.	2 tins Chopped Ham.
1 lb. Chopped Ham.	6 doz. Canadian Eggs.
3 tins Sardines.	35 lbs. Bacon.
2 tins Salmon.	21 cwt. New Potatoes.
52 lbs. Bacon.	6 stone Mackerel.
6 tins Pork Sausages.	

SWIMMING POOLS.

There are two swimming pools in the district, one at the Nautical William, Alveley, and one at Mrs. Gray's, Swancote, Bridgnorth. The pools are inspected periodically during the year and the necessary cleansing has been carried out when required.

WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

The annual limewashing and cleansing of the above-mentioned premises twice annually have been carried out.

HOUSE SCAVENGING.

The Council's scavenging scheme for the Council houses at Highley has been carried out satisfactorily during the year.

Where offensive accumulations of any kind were found in the district, they have been attended to and removed by their respective owners.



DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

There are approximately 240 Cowsheds and Dairies on the register at the present time, and whenever possible the attention of the producers has been called to the requirements of the Order in respect to the sanitary conditions in which these premises are required to be kept.

There are 22 Accredited Milk producers and 14 Tuberculin Tested.

HOUSING.

Total number of houses inspected for housing defects during the year (under the Public Health or Housing Acts) 208.  
Number of inspections made 229.

Yours obediently,

D. C. YOUNGER,

Cert. M.R.S.I., M.R.S.I.S., M.S.I.A.,  
Certified Food and Meat Inspector.

